

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) An information processing apparatus, comprising:

a generator operable to generate a Bridge Clip AV stream and clip information that includes address information as information pertinent to said Bridge Clip AV stream and clip stream type information for the Bridge Clip AV stream,

said Bridge Clip AV stream consisting of a preset portion of a first AV stream and a preset portion of a second AV stream without changes to the preset portion of the first AV stream and without changes to the preset portion of the second AV stream, and being reproduced when reproduction is switched from said first AV stream to said second AV stream,

said address information including:

information on an address of a source packet of said first AV stream at a time of switching of reproduction from said first AV stream to a third AV stream, and

information on an address of a source packet of said second AV stream at a time of switching of reproduction from said third AV stream to said second AV stream; and

a recorder operable to record said Bridge Clip AV stream and said clip information generated by said generator;

wherein said Bridge Clip AV stream maintains continuity to achieve a seamless playback and said clip stream type information included in the clip information for said Bridge Clip AV stream indicates that said third AV stream is a Bridge Clip AV stream,

said Bridge Clip AV stream including enough data to enable continuous playback from a record medium during a time when a playback head jumps from one location on the record medium to another location on the record medium,

said first AV stream is associated with a first play item and said second AV stream is associated with a second play item, said first and second play items are part of a playlist, and said second play item includes a reference to said clip information for said Bridge Clip AV stream and a reference to a clip information for said second AV stream,

said playlist is a file designating a playback sequence for a plurality of AV streams through a plurality of corresponding play items, each of said AV streams corresponding to respective clip information containing information ancillary to said AV stream, and said plurality of play items managing playback of said plurality of AV streams using time information, wherein said time information is used to determine corresponding AV stream address information by referencing said clip information,

the playlist is classified into two types, a real playlist and a virtual playlist, the playlist including a reference to clip information for the Bridge Clip AV stream is the virtual playlist, the playlist indicating address information of a file for the clip information of the Bridge Clip AV stream, and the clip information for the Bridge Clip AV stream indicating at least one relationship between a time stamp of an access point in the Bridge Clip AV stream and an address of the Bridge Clip AV stream,

when the real playlist is erased the data of the stream portion of the clip it is referencing is also erased, and when the virtual playlist is erased the contents of the clip it is referencing are in no way changed.

2. (previously presented) The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein an arrival time stamp of said source packet of said first AV stream is continuous with an arrival time stamp of a first source packet located at a leading end of said third AV stream, and an arrival time stamp of said source packet of said second AV stream is continuous with an arrival time stamp of a second source packet located at a trailing end of said third AV stream.

3. (previously presented) The information processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein a sole discontinuous point exists in said arrival time stamp of said second source packet in said third AV stream.

4. (original) The information processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said address is determined so that a data portion of an AV stream previous to a source packet specified by said information on said address of said source packet of said first AV stream is located in a continuous area of not less than a preset size on a recording medium.

5. (original) The information processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said address is determined so that a data portion of an AV stream subsequent to a source packet specified by said information on said address of said source packet of said second AV stream is located in a continuous area of not less than a preset size on a recording medium.

6. (original) The information processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said third AV stream is generated so that said third AV stream is located in a continuous area of not less than a preset size on said recording medium.

7. (currently amended) An information generating method, comprising:

generating a Bridge Clip AV stream consisting of a preset portion of a first AV stream and a preset portion of a second AV stream without changing the preset portion of

the first AV stream and without changing the preset portion of the second AV stream, said Bridge Clip AV stream being reproduced when reproduction is switched from said first AV stream to said second AV stream; and

generating clip information that includes address information as information pertinent to said Bridge Clip AV stream and clip stream type information for the Bridge Clip AV stream,

said address information including:

information on an address of a source packet of said first AV stream at a time of switching of reproduction from said first AV stream to a third AV stream, and

information on an address of a source packet of said second AV stream at a time of switching of reproduction from said third AV stream to said second AV stream;

wherein said Bridge Clip AV stream maintains continuity to achieve a seamless playback and said clip stream type information included in the clip information for said Bridge Clip AV stream indicates that said third AV stream is a Bridge Clip AV stream,

said Bridge Clip AV stream including enough data to enable continuous playback from a record medium during a time when a playback head jumps from one location on the record medium to another location on the record medium,

said first AV stream is associated with a first play item and said second AV stream is associated with a second play item, said first and second play items are part of a playlist, and said second play item includes a reference to said clip information for said Bridge Clip AV stream and a reference to a clip information for said second AV stream,

said playlist is a file designating a playback sequence for a plurality of AV streams through a plurality of corresponding play items, each of said AV streams corresponding to respective clip information containing information ancillary to said AV stream, and said plurality of play items managing playback of said plurality of AV streams using time information, wherein said time information is used to determine corresponding AV stream address information by referencing said clip information,

the playlist is classified into two types, a real playlist and a virtual playlist, the playlist including a reference to clip information for the Bridge Clip AV stream is the virtual playlist, the playlist indicating address information of a file for the clip information of the Bridge Clip AV stream, and the clip information for the Bridge Clip AV stream indicating at least one relationship between a time stamp of an access point in the Bridge Clip AV stream and an address of the Bridge Clip AV stream,

when the real playlist is erased the data of the stream portion of the clip it is referencing is also erased, and when the virtual playlist is erased the contents of the clip it is referencing are in no way changed.

8. (currently amended) A non-transitory recording medium having recorded thereon a computer-readable program for carrying out a method of generating information, said method comprising:

generating a Bridge Clip AV stream consisting of a preset portion of a first AV stream and a preset portion of a second AV stream without changing the preset portion of the first AV stream and without changing the preset portion of the second AV stream, said Bridge Clip AV stream being reproduced when reproduction is switched from said first AV stream to said second AV stream; and

generating clip information that includes address information as information pertinent to said Bridge Clip AV stream and clip stream type information for the Bridge Clip AV stream,

said address information including:

information on an address of a source packet of said first AV stream at a time of switching of reproduction from said first AV stream to a third AV stream, and

information on an address of a source packet of said second AV stream at a time of switching of reproduction from said third AV stream to said second AV stream;

wherein said Bridge Clip AV stream maintains continuity to achieve a seamless playback and said clip stream type information included in the clip information for said Bridge Clip AV stream indicates that said third AV stream is a Bridge Clip AV stream,

said Bridge Clip AV stream including enough data to enable continuous playback from a record medium during a time when a playback head jumps from one location on the record medium to another location on the record medium,

said first AV stream is associated with a first play item and said second AV stream is associated with a second play item, said first and second play items are part of a playlist, and said second play item includes a reference to said clip information for said Bridge Clip AV stream and a reference to a clip information for said second AV stream,

said playlist is a file designating a playback sequence for a plurality of AV streams through a plurality of corresponding play items, each of said AV streams corresponding to respective clip information containing information ancillary to said AV stream, and said plurality of play items managing

playback of said plurality of AV streams using time information, wherein said time information is used to determine corresponding AV stream address information by referencing said clip information,

the playlist is classified into two types, a real playlist and a virtual playlist, the playlist including a reference to clip information for the Bridge Clip AV stream is the virtual playlist, the playlist indicating address information of a file for the clip information of the Bridge Clip AV stream, and the clip information for the Bridge Clip AV stream indicating at least one relationship between a time stamp of an access point in the Bridge Clip AV stream and an address of the Bridge Clip AV stream,

when the real playlist is erased the data of the stream portion of the clip it is referencing is also erased, and when the virtual playlist is erased the contents of the clip it is referencing are in no way changed.

9. (cancelled)

10. (currently amended) An information processing apparatus, comprising:

a reproducing unit operable to reproduce a recording medium having recorded thereon a first AV stream, a second AV stream, a Bridge Clip AV stream consisting of a preset portion of said first AV stream and a preset portion of said second AV stream without changes to the preset portion of the first AV stream and without changes to the preset portion of the second AV stream, and clip information that includes address information as information pertinent to said Bridge Clip AV stream and clip stream type information for the Bridge Clip AV stream, said Bridge Clip AV stream being reproduced when reproduction is switched from said first AV stream to said second AV stream, said address information including information on an address of a source

packet of said first AV stream at a time of switching of reproduction from said first AV stream to a third AV stream, and information on an address of a source packet of said second AV stream at a time of switching of reproduction from said third AV stream to said second AV stream; and

a controller operable to control said reproducing unit for switching reproduction from said first AV stream read out from said first AV stream to said Bridge Clip AV stream and from said Bridge Clip AV stream to said second AV stream, based on said information pertinent to said Bridge Clip AV stream, read out from said second AV stream;

wherein said Bridge Clip AV stream maintains continuity to achieve a seamless playback and said clip stream type information included in the clip information for said Bridge Clip AV stream indicates that said third AV stream is a Bridge Clip AV stream,

said Bridge Clip AV stream including enough data to enable continuous playback from a record medium during a time when a playback head jumps from one location on the record medium to another location on the record medium,

said first AV stream is associated with a first play item and said second AV stream is associated with a second play item, said first and second play items are part of a playlist, and said second play item includes a reference to said clip information for said Bridge Clip AV stream and a reference to a clip information for said second AV stream,

said playlist is a file designating a playback sequence for a plurality of AV streams through a plurality of corresponding play items, each of said AV streams corresponding to respective clip information containing information ancillary to said AV stream, and said plurality of play items managing playback of said plurality of AV streams using time information,

wherein said time information is used to determine corresponding AV stream address information by referencing said clip information,

the playlist is classified into two types, a real playlist and a virtual playlist, the playlist including a reference to clip information for the Bridge Clip AV stream is the virtual playlist, the playlist indicating address information of a file for the clip information of the Bridge Clip AV stream, and the clip information for the Bridge Clip AV stream indicating at least one relationship between a time stamp of an access point in the Bridge Clip AV stream and an address of the Bridge Clip AV stream,

when the real playlist is erased the data of the stream portion of the clip it is referencing is also erased, and when the virtual playlist is erased the contents of the clip it is referencing are in no way changed.

11. (currently amended) An information processing method, comprising:

reproducing a recording medium having recorded thereon a first AV stream, a second AV stream, a Bridge Clip AV stream consisting of a preset portion of said first AV stream and a preset portion of said second AV stream without changes to the preset portion of the first AV stream and without changes to the preset portion of the second AV stream, and clip information that includes address information as information pertinent to said Bridge Clip AV stream and clip stream type information for the Bridge Clip AV stream, said Bridge Clip AV stream being reproduced when reproduction is switched from said first AV stream to said second AV stream, said address information including information on an address of a source packet of said first AV stream at a time of switching of reproduction from said first AV stream to a third AV stream, and

information on an address of a source packet of said second AV stream at a time of switching of reproduction from said third AV stream to said second AV stream; and

controlling said reproducing step for switching reproduction from said first AV stream readout-controlled in a first readout controlling step to said Bridge Clip AV stream and from said Bridge Clip AV stream to said second AV stream, based on said information pertinent to said Bridge Clip AV stream, readout-controlled in a second readout controlling step;

wherein said Bridge Clip AV stream maintains continuity to achieve a seamless playback and said clip stream type information included in the clip information for said Bridge Clip AV stream indicates that said third AV stream is a Bridge Clip AV stream,

said Bridge Clip AV stream including enough data to enable continuous playback from a record medium during a time when a playback head jumps from one location on the record medium to another location on the record medium,

said first AV stream is associated with a first play item and said second AV stream is associated with a second play item, said first and second play items are part of a playlist, and said second play item includes a reference to said clip information for said Bridge Clip AV stream and a reference to a clip information for said second AV stream,

said playlist is a file designating a playback sequence for a plurality of AV streams through a plurality of corresponding play items, each of said AV streams corresponding to respective clip information containing information ancillary to said AV stream, and said plurality of play items managing playback of said plurality of AV streams using time information, wherein said time information is used to determine corresponding

AV stream address information by referencing said clip information,

the playlist is classified into two types, a real playlist and a virtual playlist, the playlist including a reference to clip information for the Bridge Clip AV stream is the virtual playlist, the playlist indicating address information of a file for the clip information of the Bridge Clip AV stream, and the clip information for the Bridge Clip AV stream indicating at least one relationship between a time stamp of an access point in the Bridge Clip AV stream and an address of the Bridge Clip AV stream,

when the real playlist is erased the data of the stream portion of the clip it is referencing is also erased, and when the virtual playlist is erased the contents of the clip it is referencing are in no way changed.

12. (currently amended) A non-transitory recording medium having recorded thereon a computer-readable program for carrying out a method of processing information, said method comprising:

reproducing a recording medium having recorded thereon a first AV stream, a second AV stream, a Bridge Clip AV stream consisting of a preset portion of said first AV stream and a preset portion of said second AV stream without changes to the preset portion of the first AV stream and without changes to the preset portion of the second AV stream, and clip information that includes address information as information pertinent to said Bridge Clip AV stream and clip stream type information for the Bridge Clip AV stream, said Bridge Clip AV stream being reproduced when reproduction is switched from said first AV stream to said second AV stream, said address information including information on an address of a source packet of said first AV stream at a time of switching of reproduction from said first AV stream to a third AV stream, and

information on an address of a source packet of said second AV stream at a time of switching of reproduction from said third AV stream to said second AV stream; and

controlling said reproducing step for switching reproduction from said first AV stream readout-controlled in a first readout controlling step to said Bridge Clip AV stream and from said Bridge Clip AV stream to said second AV stream, based on said information pertinent to said Bridge Clip AV stream, readout-controlled in a second readout controlling step;

wherein said Bridge Clip AV stream maintains continuity to achieve a seamless playback and said clip stream type information included in the clip information for said Bridge Clip AV stream indicates that said third AV stream is a Bridge Clip AV stream,

said Bridge Clip AV stream including enough data to enable continuous playback from a record medium during a time when a playback head jumps from one location on the record medium to another location on the record medium,

said first AV stream is associated with a first play item and said second AV stream is associated with a second play item, said first and second play items are part of a playlist, and said second play item includes a reference to said clip information for said Bridge Clip AV stream and a reference to a clip information for said second AV stream,

said playlist is a file designating a playback sequence for a plurality of AV streams through a plurality of corresponding play items, each of said AV streams corresponding to respective clip information containing information ancillary to said AV stream, and said plurality of play items managing playback of said plurality of AV streams using time information, wherein said time information is used to determine corresponding

AV stream address information by referencing said clip information,

the playlist is classified into two types, a real playlist and a virtual playlist, the playlist including a reference to clip information for the Bridge Clip AV stream is the virtual playlist, the playlist indicating address information of a file for the clip information of the Bridge Clip AV stream, and the clip information for the Bridge Clip AV stream indicating at least one relationship between a time stamp of an access point in the Bridge Clip AV stream and an address of the Bridge Clip AV stream,

when the real playlist is erased the data of the stream portion of the clip it is referencing is also erased, and when the virtual playlist is erased the contents of the clip it is referencing are in no way changed.

13. (cancelled)

14. (currently amended) A non-transitory recording medium having recorded thereon address information, the address information comprising:

a Bridge Clip AV stream consisting of a preset portion of said first AV stream and a preset portion of said second AV stream without changes to the preset portion of the first AV stream and without changes to the preset portion of the second AV stream,, said Bridge Clip AV stream being reproduced when reproduction is switched from said first AV stream to said second AV stream; and

clip information that includes address information as information pertinent to said Bridge Clip AV stream and clip stream type information for the Bridge Clip AV stream, said address information including information on an address of a source packet of said first AV stream at a time of switching of reproduction from said first AV stream to a third AV stream, and information on an address of a

source packet of said second AV stream at a time of switching of reproduction from said third AV stream to said second AV stream;

wherein said Bridge Clip AV stream maintains continuity to achieve a seamless playback and said clip stream type information included in the clip information for said Bridge Clip AV stream indicates that said third AV stream is a Bridge Clip AV stream,

said Bridge Clip AV stream including enough data to enable continuous playback from a record medium during a time when a playback head jumps from one location on the record medium to another location on the record medium,

said first AV stream is associated with a first play item and said second AV stream is associated with a second play item, said first and second play items are part of a playlist, and said second play item includes a reference to said clip information for said Bridge Clip AV stream and a reference to a clip information for said second AV stream,

said playlist is a file designating a playback sequence for a plurality of AV streams through a plurality of corresponding play items, each of said AV streams corresponding to respective clip information containing information ancillary to said AV stream, and said plurality of play items managing playback of said plurality of AV streams using time information, wherein said time information is used to determine corresponding AV stream address information by referencing said clip information,

the playlist is classified into two types, a real playlist and a virtual playlist, the playlist including a reference to clip information for the Bridge Clip AV stream is the virtual playlist, the playlist indicating address information of a file for the clip information of the Bridge Clip AV stream, and the clip information for the Bridge Clip AV

stream indicating at least one relationship between a time stamp of an access point in the Bridge Clip AV stream and an address of the Bridge Clip AV stream,

when the real playlist is erased the data of the stream portion of the clip it is referencing is also erased, and when the virtual playlist is erased the contents of the clip it is referencing are in no way changed.